

## **CLAIMS**

The following claims provided under the heading "Listing of Claims" replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified pending patent application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (currently amended):** A system for offering a financial instrument across different types of trading platforms, comprising:

a plurality of trading platforms, at least two of the plurality of trading platforms employing different trading protocols for a two-way exchange of ~~exchanging~~ trading information, a trading protocol being a set of rules governing how computers of trading platforms communicate and transfer data; and

an interface for linking the plurality of trading platforms to allow an offering of a financial instrument posted in a source ~~that is posted by a primary~~ trading platform to be simultaneously offered in multiple at least one secondary trading platform platforms, the offering being sent as a quote message to the interface in accordance with the trading protocol employed by the source ~~primary~~ trading platform, the interface including at least one adapter coupled to each of the secondary trading platforms, each adapter configured to translate the quote message and include the trading protocol employed by the corresponding secondary trading platform to receive the translated quote message, each of the secondary trading platforms receiving the posted offering using their respective trading protocol, each of the secondary trading platforms having received the translated quote message sending back a quote acknowledgement message to the interface via the corresponding adapter coupled thereto using their respective trading protocol, the interface ensuring that the quote acknowledgement message sent by a secondary trading platform is in agreement with the source ~~primary~~ trading platform.

**Claim 2 (canceled)**

**Claim 3 (previously presented):** The system of claim 1, wherein the quote acknowledgment message is generated after receipt of a posted trade request to purchase a specified quantity of a specified financial instrument at a specified price.

**Claim 4 (previously presented):** The system of claim 1, wherein a posted trade request is canceled if the quote acknowledgment message is not received within a predetermined time period.

**Claim 5 (original):** The system of claim 1, wherein a first trading platform includes a risk management component and a second trading platform includes a trading portal.

**Claim 6 (original):** The system of claim 1, further including a reporting component for reporting transaction information associated with trading activity

**Claim 7 (canceled)**

**Claim 8 (previously presented):** The system of claim 1, wherein the interface ensures that offering information is uniform in each of the plurality of trading platforms.

**Claim 9 (previously presented):** The system of claim 8, wherein a change in pricing information on one of the plurality of trading platforms causes a corresponding pricing information change on another one of the plurality of trading platforms.

**Claim 10 (previously presented):** The system of claim 8, wherein a change in quantity information on one of the plurality of trading platforms causes a corresponding quantity information change on another one of the plurality of trading platforms.

**Claim 11 (currently amended):** A method for offering a financial instrument across different types of trading platforms, at least two ~~of the~~ trading platforms employing different trading protocols for a two-way exchange of exchanging trading information, a trading protocol being a set of rules governing how computers of trading platforms communicate and transfer data, said method comprising the steps of:

posting an offering of a financial instrument initially in a source primary trading platform, wherein the source trading platform employs a first trading protocol;

sending the offering simultaneously to multiple at least one secondary trading ~~platform~~ platforms, wherein at least one of the secondary trading platforms employs a trading protocol disparate from the first trading protocol, wherein the source primary and secondary trading platforms are being linked by an interface, and wherein the offering is being sent to the interface as a quote message in accordance with the first trading protocol employed by the source primary trading platform;

translating the quote message of the posted offering at the interface, wherein the translation includes the trading protocol employed by the corresponding secondary trading platform to receive the translated quote message; and

receiving at the interface a quote acknowledgement message from each of the secondary trading ~~platforms~~ platform having received the translated quote message, the quote acknowledgement message being sent to the interface in accordance with the trading protocol employed by the secondary trading platform.

**Claim 12 (canceled)**

**Claim 13 (previously presented):** The method of claim 11, wherein the quote acknowledgment message is generated after receipt of a posted trade request to purchase a specified quantity of a specified financial instrument at a specified price.

**Claim 14 (previously presented):** The method of claim 11, wherein a posted trade request is canceled if the quote acknowledgment message is not received within a predetermined time period.

**Claim 15 (original):** The method of claim 11, wherein a first trading platform includes a risk management component and a second trading platform includes a trading portal.

**Claim 16 (original):** The method of claim 11, further including the step of reporting transaction information associated with trading activity.

**Claim 17 (currently amended):** A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable on the machine to perform method steps for offering a financial instrument across different types of trading platforms, at least two of the trading platforms employing different trading protocols for a two-way exchange of exchanging trading information, a trading protocol being a set of rules governing how computers of trading platforms communicate and transfer data, said method steps comprising:

posting an offering of a financial instrument initially in a source primary trading platform, wherein the source trading platform employs a first trading protocol;

sending the offering simultaneously to multiple at least one secondary trading platform platforms, wherein at least one of the secondary trading platforms employs a trading protocol disparate from the first trading protocol, wherein the source primary

and secondary trading platforms ~~are being~~ linked by an interface, and wherein the offering ~~is being~~ sent to the interface as a quote message in accordance with the first trading protocol employed by the source ~~primary~~ trading platform;

translating the quote message of the posted offering at the interface, wherein the translation includes the trading protocol employed by the corresponding secondary trading platform to receive the translated quote message; and

receiving at the interface a quote acknowledgement message from each of the secondary trading ~~platforms~~ platform having received the translated quote message, the quote acknowledgement message being sent to the interface in accordance with the trading protocol employed by the secondary trading platform.